

REMARKS

Applicants submitted a February 12, 1999 Amendment in the parent application and request entry of that amendment for the purposes of prosecuting the present continued prosecution application. Applicants in the February 12, 1999 Amendment presented additional claims 56-64.

On March 9, 1999, Examiner Brunsman advised by telephone that the Amendment of February 12, 1999 and the Supplemental Response of March 1, 1999 overcame all issues in the application, i.e., the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112, 102, 103 and 251 codes and he would enter claims 56-60, but not claims 61-64. The Examiner also indicated that he would declare an interference with Neuman, United States Patent No. 5,776,236 upon the cancellation of claims 61-64.

The Examiner in the subsequent March 10, 1999 Advisory Action, however, did not indicate that the applicants' responses of February 12 and March 1, 1999 overcame the 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103 and 251 rejections. Applicants believe that this was an oversight on the part of the Examiner.

The present amendment by canceling claims 61-64 without prejudice now places this continuation prosecution application in condition for the declaration of an interference with the Neuman Patent and applicants respectfully request such action.

If filing this amendment requires an extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and payment of an extension fee or other fee, either in the present continuation prosecution application or the parent application from which it depends and this


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response fails to account for such fees, applicants' attorneys request such an extension and charging such fees to their deposit account number 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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